

INFORMA ~~SECRET~~ REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Georgia)

DATE DISTR. 22 October 1948

SUBJECT Institute Being Built for Gustav Hertz
at Sukhumi

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1C PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF 1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1A

25X1X

1. From the middle of 1946, German prisoners-of-war and Russian workers have been employed in the construction of a large building in Sukhumi on the Black Sea. They were told by the Russians that the building was to be a hospital. No one, including the Russian workers, believed this story because:

- a. The construction area was permanently guarded by heavy guard posts.
- b. The walls of the alleged hospital building consisted of concrete of "several meters" thickness" (more accurate information not available).

It became common knowledge that the building was really destined to become an institute for Professor Gustav Hertz, who was known to be living in the nearby German colony.

2. At the beginning of the summer of 1948, the raw construction of the building was finished. At that time, the PWs were withdrawn from the work and only Russian workers continued to be employed in it. German PWs employed in the construction work then estimated that it would take one and a half years to fit out the building for the purposes of an institute, provided that the work continued at the same rate.
3. The building is located near the Black Sea shore between the German colony, consisting of about twelve stone buildings, and the Russian scientists' colony, consisting of an unspecified number of Finnish wooden houses. The German colony, located in the so-called Eukalyptus Hain (grove), is surrounded by a very high wooden fence, is closely guarded, and includes a stretch of seashore. The Sukhumi-Tiflis rail line and a highway run between the seashore and the German colony.

4. [REDACTED] opinion that Hertz is engaged in only theoretical research, but the only foundation for this opinion is his belief that experimental work is not possible in the buildings of the German colony.

Comment: The building described above is probably the one marked as No. 15 on the sketch map of Sukhumi [REDACTED]

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Auth: [REDACTED]

Date: 17 Feb 2000